

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY FIRE INVESTIGATION TASK FORCE

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

A meeting of the General Membership of the Brown County Fire Investigation Task Force was held on Thursday, September 6, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., at De Pere Fire Station #1, 400 Lewis St., De Pere, WI.

Present: Tom Hendricks, Jeff Janiak, Angie Cali, Cody Johnson, Greg Dougherty, Glenn Deviley, Bill Tews, Gregg Staszak, Kevin Tielens, Tyler Jonet, Terry Rottier, Eric Johnson, Kevin Krueger, Aaron Anderson

Item #1. Adoption of Agenda

Motion was made by Dougherty and seconded by Tielens to adopt the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Item #2. Review Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion was made by Anderson and seconded by Janiak to approve the minutes from the last meeting on May 31, 2018. **Motion carried.**

Item #3. Report of Task Force Activities

Hendricks reported that the Task Force was called out to two fires since the last meeting:

CTH EE/Overland Rd., Hobart (barn) – The reason the Task Force was called was because it was thought a fatality was involved, but it turned out to be someone who had a heart attack in the residence.

353 W. Pulaski St., Pulaski (garage/accidental) – Started by juveniles playing with a stick lighter.

Item #4. Old Business

1. Spring Conference.
 - a. Discuss Value of Presentation.

A comment was made that it was too long to listen to one person talk about one subject.
2. FIT Recertification.

Hendricks reminded those who have their recertification coming due, to get that done.
3. Board of Directors June Meeting.
 - a. On-Call System

The Board is looking at setting up a call-out system similar to that of the Hazmat Team.

b. Inventory.

Patenaude will assign two investigators a month to inventory the rig.

c. BATS.

The Task Force is looking at implementing the BATS program, a databank program used by ATF and law enforcement nationwide. It is very useful in checking to see if someone has a prior fire-setting history. The Board of Directors needs to clear it with the district attorney.

Item #6. New Business

1. Brandon Dhuey Returns as Coordinator and Joe Patenaude as Assistant/Training.

Dhuey is now back as the coordinator and Patenaude the assistant coordinator/training.

2. Call-Out Procedures.

After discussion on what the Board of Directors has proposed, it was felt that more discussion is needed on this. It was mentioned that some investigators' work schedules vary and that some might have children's school activities to attend, so setting a schedule could be difficult. It was brought up that Green Bay is not going out on calls as they don't feel it benefits them since they do their own fire investigations. It was also noted that the call-out list needs to be updated.

3. Monthly Inventory.

Patenaude created a schedule assigning two investigators per month to do inventory/maintenance of the rig starting in September. An inventory checklist is in the rig. He expects it to take about an hour and you will get paid for this.

4. 2019 Meeting Days (Best Day of the Week).

It was agreed that Tuesdays would work best for General Membership meetings. This will start in 2019.

5. State Farm Insurance Grant for Respirators.

State Farm has a grant available that could allow the Task Force to get respirators for every investigator. Someone on the Task Force is working on the grant application. There are some respirators on the rig now. It is recommended that you wear one during fire investigations.

Item #7. Juvenile Firesetter Business

No juvenile firesetter business to report. Per Deviley, a JFS course is planned for the spring seminar in June. There was a question if the JFS interviewers from De Pere and Green Bay can

be utilized countywide since the Task Force does not have any. This will be brought to the Board of Directors.

Item #8. Other Business

Deviley stated he is putting together a training session to be held sometime between now and February. If you have any specific training you would like, let him know.

Item #9. Date, Time and Location of Next Meeting

The next meeting is set for Thursday, December 6, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., at the Brown County Sheriff's Office, 2684 Development Drive, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Item #10. Training

Petra Schwab from the Medical Examiner's Office gave a presentation after the business portion of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Laurent
Recording Secretary